Information system for water related data

2308. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the National Water Resources Policy 2002, Government have proposed to establish an information system for water related data at State/National level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether progress in this regard is satisfactory; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The provisions in the National Water Policy, 2002 in respect of Information System are as under:

> "2.1 A well developed information system, for water related data in its entirety, at the National/State level, is a prime requisite for resource planning. A standardised national information system should be established with a network of data banks and data bases, integrating and strengthening the existing Central and State level agencies and improving the quality of data and the processing capabilities.
>
> 2.2 Standards for coding, classification, processing of data and methods/procedures for its collection should be adopted. Advances in information technology must be introduced to create a modern information system promoting free exchange of data among various agencies. Special efforts should be made to develop and continuously upgrade technological capability to collect, process and disseminate reliable data in the desired time frame.
>
> 2.3 Apart from the data regarding water availability and actual water use, the system should also include comprehensive and reliable projections of future demands of water for diverse purposes."

Under Hydrology Project completed in December 2003, a Hydrological Information System (HIS) has been established in 9 States and 6 Central agencies. The information system includes the facilities for data collection, processing, storage, retrieval and listing of data availability in data centres.

Under the Hydrology Project Phase-II (HP-II), extension of HIS to 4 new States/UTs and 2 central agencies has been planned.

Shortage of water reservoirs

†2309. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an acute shortage of water reservoirs like pools, ponds, baoris is being observed in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this shortage has reached to 38 per cent just during last one decade;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) whether Government have assessed its likely impact on the availability of water in the country due to this shortage; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The total storage capacity created so far is 113 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). This includes 6.2 BCM of storage capacity created through Medium schemes (of capacity less than 10 million cubic metre). Further, there are numerous natural and man-made water bodies such as lakes, tanks, ponds and similar structures. Many of the water bodies like ponds, lakes etc. have fallen into disuse. A Pilot Scheme on "National Project for Repair Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" has been approved by the Government of India with a Plan outlay of Rs. 300 crore for the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan. However, the overall storage capacity of the reservoirs of various categories have increased over time.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.